

# **CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**April 28, 2005**

## **MINUTES**

**A special meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, April 28, 2005, at the B.F. Norton School, 364 Broad Street, was called to order by Chairman Paul Neves at 7:40 PM, with the following present:**

**Paul Neves, Chair, Donald J. Costa, Vice Chair, Arthur DaCosta, Clerk,**

**Rosa Crowley, Linda Teel, Robert C. Thibodeau, Earl T. Wood**

**Also Present: Joseph M. Nasif, Jr., Superintendent, Donna A. Morelle, Assistant Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Esq., Director Legal Services/Employee Relations**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance - The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alicia Plougg, Dillon Schafer and Eric Mendes from B.F. Norton School.**

**II. Approval of Agenda - On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the agenda.**

**III. Chairperson's Report - None.**

**IV. Comments from the Public - None.**

## **V. Reports of Standing Committees**

### **A. Finance Committee**

**1. Payment of Bills - On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE payment of bills in the amount of \$1,166,027.80.**

#### **2. Bids**

**a. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the bid by GovConnect, Merrimack, NH not to exceed \$18,966.02 for printers and print server. The printers are for various offices where School Max will be used.**

**b. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the bid for computer network switches to DISYS, Chantilly, VA, not to exceed \$8,700.**

**c. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Crowley and Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the bid by Lightship Group, Wickford, RI not to exceed \$5,380 for generator repair at B.F. Norton School.**

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**d. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Crowley and Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the bid for 23**

**cafeteria tables for Cumberland High School to Virco, Inc., Torrance, CA, not to exceed \$15,338.70.**

**e. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the purchase of library and classroom books from Scholastic Books, not to exceed \$8,461.02.**

**f. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. Thibodeau and Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the increase the substitute salary rates as presented by the Superintendent. The rate will increase to \$75/day; after 30 days increase to \$85; and retirees will receive \$85/day. The rate will begin at day one and are effective only through the end of this school year. The Superintendent noted the high absentee rate and the difficulty in finding substitutes. Central Administration is looking at the absentee rate, knowing that part of the need for substitutes has been for professional development.**

## **VI. Old Business**

**A. Building Committee Update - The Superintendent reported there is more cement work being done at the Wellness Center and the steel is on site and the bleachers at Tucker Field have been demolished. There will be an informational night on CHS2010 and the proposed Phase III plan. Anyone arriving at 6:00 p.m. will be able to go on a tour of the High School and at 7:00 p.m. there will be a discussion with the Town Council and the School Committee in the Auditorium. The 3.5 million dollar/elementary/ Tucker Field building committee met with the architects on the windows and doors at the elementary**

**schools. It was noted that Graduation will be held June 7th at 6:00 p.m. on the front baseball field. The rain date is June 8th and if it rains on that date, graduation will be moved inside.**

**B. Search Committee Update - The Superintendent reported there were 22 applicants for the Facilities Director. The search committee is being established. Tom Ruo has been filling in. There have been six applicants for the Community School position and the position is being re-advertised.**

## **VII. New Business**

**A. Featured School: B.F. Norton School - Ms. Vaughn introduced the teachers and parents who assisted in the presentation. The principal gave a breakdown of the diversity of the students and what makes B.F. Norton an effective school. Three students spoke on their classes. Ms. Vaughn introduced Dr. Rude, a professor from RIC who spoke of the number of student teachers he has observed at B.F. Norton. He commented on what a good place it was for his masters degree students to work with teachers.**

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**The Chair declared a recess at 8:35 p.m. in order to observe the student work on display. The meeting was reconvened at 8:54 p.m.**

**B. Affirmative Action Policy: 1st Reading - Mr. Rotella noted the only change to the policy would be the dates. He is the listed Affirmative Action Policy officer. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE waiving the first reading of the policy. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the Affirmative Action Policy as presented.**

**C. Report on RICE Job Fair - The Superintendent reported they attend this job fair on an annual basis. Mr. Rotella reported they attended the job fair on the 20th and met with over 88 candidates for teacher positions on all levels. He noted he has been sending out letters to applicants.**

**D. End of Year Activities - The Superintendent stated he would wait until the next meeting when he had a full list of activities.**

**E. Superintendent Search - No report.**

## **VIII. Superintendent's Recommendations**

**A. Personnel Recommendations - The Superintendent presented the following:**

**1. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the appointment of Joy Sullivan, Pupil Management Clerk at Cumberland High School, effective May 16, 2005 (1.0 FTE, Step 1, No Advance Lane, 10% Copay). The Superintendent introduced the appointee.**

**2. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Mr. Costa, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the FMLA Leave of Dorian**

**McCormack, School Psychologist at Administration, with the effective date of May 9, 2005 to be reviewed by the Superintendent.**

**B. General Comments - The Superintendent noted the public forum for the Superintendent candidate will be Monday, May 9th with an informal section from 7:00-7:45 p.m. and formal section from 7:45-8:30 p.m. This will be hosted by Dan Yorke. Questions can be submitted in advance through Mr. Rotella's office or completed that night during the informal section.**

**IX. Comments from the Public - Mrs. Lambert thanked the Superintendent for re-advertising the Community School position and hopes it will be someone with strong leadership and knowledge in curriculum.**

**X. School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports) - Mr. Costa commented on Ms. Vaughn's presentation and hopes she keeps the momentum going. Mr. Neves commented on All Band night, stating the presentation was well attended.**

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**XI. Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion and/or Action Items Referred to in GLRI 42-46-5**

**A. Personnel Matters - Exception (1)**

**1. CTA/ICSE**

## **B. Negotiations/Litigation - Exception (2)**

### **1. CTA/ICSE**

**Ms. Crowley made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Mr. Costa provided a second. On a roll call vote, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE adjourning Open Session at 9:17 p.m.**

**Open Session reconvened at 9:37 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Thibodeau, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE sealing the Executive Session minutes.**

**XII. Adjournment - On a motion by Mr. Thibodeau, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE adjourning Open Session at 9:38 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Shirley Harris**

**Recording Secretary**